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REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for considering the present application. Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's withdrawal of previously-allowed claims 14-20 in view of the newly discovered reference to Mayer et al. (U.S.007016980B1). Applicants respectfully request the Examiner for a reconsideration of the rejections.

DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 1, 14 and 23 stand rejected under non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 6, 1 and 21 of U.S. Patent No. 7,149,219 to Donahue. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.321 and §3.73(b), Applicant is filing herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to disclaim any term of this application's granted patent that continues after the expiration of U.S. Patent No. 7,149, 219. The appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.20(d) is included.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claim 23 stands rejected under Section 35 U.S.C. §101. Applicants have amended claim 23 to recite "A computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a plurality of computer-executable instructions...".

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4, 7-10, 14-16 and 18-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Mayer (US007016980B1). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Claim 1 is directed to a method for filtering content. A filtering router shown in Figure 4 is used. The method steps are illustrated in Figure 7B and will be described below. Claim 1 recites receiving at a content filtering router a packet containing a request for content, where said packet comprises a first destination internet protocol (IP) address of a content server that stores the content and a second destination IP address of the content filtering router. The corresponding step is Step 734, which is described on Page 13, Lines 1-4.

Claim 1 further recites determining whether the first destination IP address is on a list of destination IP addresses to be filtered. This is illustrated in Figure 7B as Step 736 and is described on Page 14, Lines 10-12.

Claim 1 also recites routing the packet to an output port on the content filtering router based on the first destination IP address and the list. This is illustrated as Step 744 and is described on Page 14, Lines 15-16.

The first step of claim 1 is receiving at a **content filtering router**. The last clause is routing the packet to an output port on said content filtering router based on the first destination IP address and the list.

For a proper Section 102 rejection, each and every one of the claim limitations must be found in the reference. The Mayer reference does not teach each and every one of the elements. In fact, Applicants respectfully submit that more than one of the elements is not found.

The Examiner points to column 8, lines 48-53 for meeting the limitations of claims 1, 14, 21, 22 and 23. This passage states, "A central object in the firewall analysis tool 200 is a query. A query is a triple, consisting of a source host-group, a destination host-group and a service [host-]group. The semantics of such a query are 'which IP address is within the source host-group can send services from the service host-group to which IP addresses in the destination host-group?'"

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The Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner to the Abstract of the Mayer reference which gives the purpose of the Mayer reference. While it is true, as the Examiner points out, that the title is apparatus for analyzing one or more firewalls, Applicants respectfully submit that the Mayer reference is substantially different. The Abstract specifically recites that the Mayer reference is directed to a method and apparatus for analyzing the operation of one or more network gateways, such as firewalls or routers, that perform a packet filtering function in a network environment. The Applicants respectfully point out that this first sentence highlights the packet filtering aspect of the Mayer reference. Further, the Abstract states, "Given a user query, the disclosed firewall analysis tool simulates the behavior of the various firewalls, taking into account the topology of the network environment, and determines which portions of the services are machine-specified in the original query would manage to reach from the source to the destination." Therefore, the purpose is for a simulation for firewalls.

As was highlighted above, claim 1 is directed to a content filtering router. The Mayer reference does not teach or suggest the use of a content filtering router. Filtering is mentioned but both Figure 1, reference numeral 125 and Figure 2, reference numeral 155 recite "packet filtering." Because claim 1 is directed to a method for filtering content as recited in the preamble, the packet comprises a first destination IP protocol address of a content server that stores content of the content filtering router. There is no teaching or suggestion for a content server and a content filtering router in the Mayer reference.

The second element of claim 1 is also not taught or suggested in the Mayer reference. That is, determining whether the first IP address is on a list of destination IP addresses to be filtered, is also not taught or suggested in the Mayer reference.

Element 3 is also not taught in the Mayer reference. That is, routing the packet to an output port on the content filtering router based upon the destination IP address and the list, is

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not taught. As mentioned above, the content filtering router is not present in the Mayer reference. Therefore, because several differences exist and each and every element of claim 1 is not taught in the Mayer reference, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider this rejection.

Claim 14 is directed to a method for filtering content. Claim 14 recites receiving at an Internet protocol communications device a packet containing a request for content where the packet comprises a source IP address of a client computer from where the request originated and a destination IP address of a content server that stores content. Claim 14 further recites determining that the request is to be subjected to a content filtering service based on the destination IP address and adding a second destination IP address of a content filtering router to the packet. Claim 14 then recites that the further step of sending the packet toward the content filtering router. Claim 14 thus is also directed to filtering content. Claim 14 also recites a content filtering router which the Applicants believe is not taught in the Mayer reference as described above with respect to claim 1. There is no distinction in the Mayer reference for determining that a request is to be subjected to a content filtering service based on the destination IP address and adding a second destination IP address of a content filtering router to the packet. As mentioned above, the Mayer reference is merely directed to simulation. Therefore, Applicants believe that each and every element of claim 14 is also not taught in the Mayer reference.

Claim 21 is similar to claim 1 in that communication procedures are set forth that are configured to receive a packet that also includes a first destination IP address and a second destination IP address. A routing protocol is set forth having several instructions for determining whether the first IP address is on a list, instructions for routing the packet to one of the output ports based on the first destination IP address on the list, and a routing table containing the list.

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This claim is similar to claim 1 and, therefore, is believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as set forth above.

Claim 22 is an independent claim that adds a second destination IP address similar to that of claim 14. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 22 is allowable for the same reasons set forth above with respect to claim 14.

Claim 23 recites instructions for adding a second IP address of a content filtering router to the packet. This is also similar to claim 14 and is believed to be allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

Claim 2-4, 7-10, 15, 16, 18-20 and 24 are dependent upon allowable independent claims and are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons set forth above with respect to their independent claims.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 11-13, 17 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayer.

Claims 11-13, 17 and 25 are dependent claims and are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons set forth above, since there are several missing elements from their independent claims.

Claims 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayer in view of Shah (US006260070B1).

Claims 5 and 6 depend from Claims 4 and 3, respectively. Claims 4 and 3 ultimately depend from claim 1. As mentioned above, claim 1 is missing several elements. The Shah reference also does not teach or suggest the limitations missing from the Mayer reference relative to claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 5 and 6 are also allowable.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the remarks above, Applicants submit that all objections and rejections are now overcome. The application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments which would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Should any fees be associated with this submission, please charge Deposit Account 50-0383.

Respectfully submitted,

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